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VT - LEAHY MONTPELIER, VT

U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy says Congress should investigate the publication of a CIA manual for Nicaraguan rebels.

Leahy said either junior CIA officers acted totally on their own in putting out the guide, or high-level officials told them to take actions contrary to congressional mandates.

''Either way is totally unacceptable,'' he said.

Six CIA officials were disciplined for publication of the manual, which recommended the ''selective use of violence'' to ''neutralize'' officials of the country's leftist government.

Leahy, a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, said the manual damaged the credibility of the CIA and the United States.

And, he said there is a ''real possibility'' the junior officers were made scapegoats to protect senior officials.